



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(MBHB Case No. 00-669-A)

Application of: Reeve, et al. )  
)  
Filed: August 13, 2001 )  
) Group Art Unit: 1621  
Serial No.: 09/928,560 )  
) Examiner: Ernest G. Therkorn  
Title: Process for the Fractionation of )  
Polymers )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 22, 2003**

Responsive to the Office Action of January 22, 2003, please enter the following Amendment and reexamine the application in view of the following remarks:

AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

- (a) Cancel Claims 5,8 and 20
- (b) Add Claim 21
- (c) Amend claims 1-4, 6, 9-19 as follows:

1. (amended) A process for the fractionation or purification of polydisperse water soluble polymers that are composed of repeating units that do not contain functional groups capable of carrying a charge at neutral pH comprising:
  - a. dissolving a known amount of the polymer in water to form a clear solution,
  - b. equilibrating the solution at a temperature that allows the formation of an opaque solution when an aqueous soluble, multivalent salt is added to the solution,

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